

BLUE - GRASS BLADE

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Charles L. Moore
Editor

A TELEGRAM from New York says that State Geologist Proctor will start for home immediately. The slander recently published against him in the Louisville Times has doubtless reached his ears, and he will hasten home to face his defamers. The slander has been denied as well as it possibly can be, but the damage to his reputation can never be reached, for many people who read the cruel libel will never see its denial. The dispatch making charges against Mr. Proctor went from Lexington to the Times—so it appeared from the date line to it. It is all very well for a newspaper to be enterprising and get all the news, but if that dispatch went from Lexington it was a reckless piece of business. Transcript reporters heard a rumor as to Mr. Proctor early in the afternoon. A representative openly declared that Mr. Proctor had gone wrong, and this might have been regarded as good authority, but the standing of such a man as Mr. Proctor so far precluded the possibility of his doing anything out of the way, that we telegraphed to Frankfort about the rumor, and promptly the rumor was emphatically denied. This is what we regard as prudent journalism, and we deem it best to run the risk of losing a sensational item, than to jeopardize the reputation of any man by rushing his name into print in connection with a crime.

We believe this should be the aim of every respectable public journal. The newspaper is not a free lance to cut and carve any and everybody, regardless of right and wrong. The public press should have liberty, but if it takes license there should be a strict application of law to enforce its occupancy of its legitimate field.

KENTUCKY has 14,000 square miles of coal fields; Pennsylvania, 12,030 miles; Great Britain, entire, 11,850 miles, and England, alone, 6,039 miles. The wealth of Pennsylvania is largely due to the development of the coal in that State, and the importance of England in the industrial world is due to a similar cause. What Kentucky needs is not the abolition of its geological survey, but an extension of the work.

The stirring up of the penitentiary lease business is liable to bring some interesting facts to the attention of the public. There is a growing suspicion that there is a clique or ring of speculators who have considerable interest in this lease business, and that some members of that ring are high State officials. Day by day new things come to light and as the public becomes more interested the existence of a big lease ring becomes more apparent. A letter in another column from Central City, Tenn., gives some interesting food for reflection.

Mr. J. H. BATES, whose great New York newspaper advertising agency is well and favorably known all over the world, has recently published a retrospective view of advertising for the past thirty years. Mr. Bates says that thirty years ago regular, steady-going business houses were rather shy of advertising. Now all classes believe that the newspapers offer them the best and most effective way of getting before the public. Thirty years ago a man spending \$25,000 a year in advertising was looked upon as a large advertiser. Now many houses expend that sum monthly all through the year. ROBERT BONNER, of the Ledger, first branched out as a large advertiser. He once had the splendid audacity to pay \$80,000 for one insertion. Mr. BATES, in looking back over his advertising patrons, cannot find one judicious advertiser who failed to succeed in business. This testimony, coming from a man of the strictest integrity and extensive experience, speaks volumes. In this country, at least, advertising is the pioneer, the advance guard of all successful business enterprises.

A PROTEST.

The City Council Meets and Protests Against the City Charter Amendments.

All the Councilmen were present last night at a meeting of that body called for the purpose of protesting against the charter amendments. By request, Capt. Sharp stated the amendments to be as follows: A Council of twenty members, and twelve Aldermen. A Commission of five to have charge of the police and firemen; two of the commission to be appointed by the County Judge, the Mayor being the fifth, and a chairman of the commission to be selected annually. Payment of head tax put off until four days before election, and only previous year's tax required. A registration law. All Councilmen and Aldermen to serve without pay. No candidate for any office to be a commissioner.

Mr. Kaufman offered the following resolution which, after much discussion, was passed by a vote of 10 to 2, Messrs. Waincott and Muir voting against it:

WHEREAS, Our Senators and Representatives have introduced bills in the General Assembly of Kentucky to amend our city charter, with the full import of which we have not been made acquainted except by hearsay and indirectly, and WHEREAS, We believe that this Council and the people of this city should know what those charter amendments are before they are passed in the General Assembly of Kentucky, and suggest such amendments as may be needed, and not included on those bills before the Legislature,

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to take such steps as in their opinion may be necessary to lay the amendments in question before the people before becoming a law, or that they may be notified by the people after their passage, as was done with the amendments last passed.

The ordinance prohibiting concert halls in certain limits was then put on its last reading and passed unanimously.

Council then adjourned.

He Loved a Beautiful Woman.

Col. R. G. Ingersoll, was for many years a resident of Peoria, and some of the old residents of that place do not hesitate to assert that at times he indirectly admitted the existence of an endless place of torment which he now claims does not exist. As an instance of this, also to show the readiness at reports of the colonel, the following story is told: Several years ago, when he was in the prime of his law practice in Peoria, the Colonel happened to have as a client a young and buxom widow over in Washington, Tazewell county. The opposing counsel was the late Jonathan K. Cooper, as staunch a Presbyterian as he was able lawyer. At the close of the evidence Mr. Cooper arose and made a splendid argument on his side of the case, closing by saying that his legal opponent was prejudiced when it came to defending beautiful women. "Why," said Mr. Cooper, "when Col. Ingersoll gets a chance to work in a law case for a handsome woman, he forgets all law and logic, and everything except her attractions, and you, gentlemen of the jury, have no doubt had evidence of the truth of this during the progress of the present trial." After the venerable Presbyterian closed, Col. Ingersoll arose, with a twinkle in his eye, and slowly and solemnly commenced as follows: "Gentlemen of the jury, the counsel on the other side is correct. I do love a beautiful woman. I love the fireside about which play dear children, presided over by a smiling beautiful mother. I tell you what it is, gentlemen of the jury, I would rather—much rather—if I had my choice, be in a—fifteen minutes, sitting on a hard wooden bench, beside a woman as beautiful as Cleopatra, than to reside a lifetime in Heaven singing psalms with Jonathan K. Cooper." The jury, court, lawyers, and spectators roared with laughter, in which Mr. Cooper was forced to join, and Col. Ingersoll and his beautiful client came out ahead.—Chicago Tribune.

Close of the Horse Sale.

Woodard & Harrison's combination sale closed yesterday. The sale was a complete success and a credit to the enterprising proprietors. Forty-three head were sold yesterday for \$9,160, an average of \$213 per head. The entire receipts of the sales will amount to about \$200,000. Below will be found the names of the leading horses sold: Zipporah, bay mare, by Belmont, dam Judith by Mambrino Chief, to J. C. Johnson, \$750; Bluegrass Fannie, chestnut mare, by Mambrino Patchen, dam Queen Mary by Joe Hooker, Bowerman & Bro., Lexington, \$755; Bella Donna, bay mare, by Valentine Chief, dam by Dave Akin, J. J. Bowers, Halstead, Mass., \$300; Ida Wilkes, red sorrel mare, by Favorite Wilkes, to John T. Hughes, Lexington, \$400; Blondina Wilkes, sorrel filly by Young Jim George, dam by Shelby Chief, to Wm. McCubbin, Lexington, \$575; Sarah B., chestnut mare, by Hailstorm, E. O. Bretney, Lebanon, Ky., \$520; Ella Wilkes, bay mare, by Red Wilkes, dam by Star Chief, Ira Penn, Paris, Ky., \$330; Fatinita, bay mare, by Clay Wilkes, to J. E. Ketzmilller, Canton, Ohio, \$315.

State Teacher's Meeting.

The management of the Teacher's meeting to be held at the Opera House at Frankfort on Saturday, February 27th, 1886, have requested all the railroads in the State to allow the teachers and friends of the school children of the State to attend

that meeting at half fare. We have no doubt that all the roads will cheerfully make this deduction out of pure friendship for the children of the State, as this grand meeting is to be held solely in the interest of better schools all over the State. The roads should gladly make this abatement, and we have no doubt they will do it promptly. Although it is fashionable to abuse railroads, it will be found that they are like the people, and never go back on a good cause.—Frankfort Roundabout

THE ATHENS ELECTION TRAGEDY.

What a Witness in the Hart Case Says He Saw of the Killing.

Mr. H. Sparks, of Lewis county, has been here as a witness in the Hart murder case. He states that he saw Stivers take dead aim and shoot Veal twice. Veal was running with the crowd that had stamped when Hart drew his revolver. Stivers must have been a fine shot to hit Veal while running in a crowd, the firing distance being estimated by Sparks at 30 yards. The man Waller was killed by Hart, Sparks says, and his impression is that when Hart drew, Waller rushed toward him to attempt to prevent shooting; Hart not knowing the design of Waller supposed that he was an assailant and shot him. As Veal fell he drew his pistol, and shot at Hart, his ball glancing over his forehead. Sparks says he was at Athens visiting a cousin at the time of the tragedy, and went to the election. He was on the other side of the road from the crowd at the time of the firing, and being in no danger saw the entire transaction from beginning to end.

THE DE ROODE TRIAL.

The Testimony for the Commonwealth All In.

The trial of Mr. R. de Roode for malicious assault on H. E. Gratz was begun in the Circuit Court yesterday. Prosecuting Attorney Bronston is assisted by Col. Thornton, and the defense is represented by Messrs. Gibbons, Beauchamp and Allen. The first witness examined was Mr. H. E. Gratz, who gave the same statements as in the trial of Lewis de Roode. Col. Allen made a sharp cross-examination, in which he drew out that the witness had charged De Roode with being a gambler, an infidel, and immoral, but that his statements were based wholly on hearsay. The cross-examination also elicited that Mr. Gratz had a bad feeling for De Roode for 13 years, and always denounced him when an opportunity offered to suit him.

Jos. Harrison, W. Y. Bean, Drs. Skillman and Scott, and Allie De Long were examined, when the prosecution closed, and the court adjourned till this morning, when the testimony of the defense will be introduced.

CHARTER AMENDMENTS.

Quite an Interest in the Amendments Manifested.

About fifty citizens met the Louisville train last night to see some one with the charter amendments, as passed by the Legislature. No one had a copy, and so far a copy cannot be had. It is in the hands of the Clerk of the Senate, and will, probably, be presented to the Governor to-day for his signature. It will be the law inside of twelve hours from six o'clock this morning. Two things are well known to be in its provisions—one being the increase of the Council to twenty members, and the other being a Board of twelve Aldermen. No ordinance can become operative until it passes both these bodies, and this feature is generally commended by our citizens. Aldermen and Councilmen are to serve without pay.

Now that this is the law, there will have to be a primary for the additional officers, or let there be a free fight for them. As there will be no money in sight for services there is not much chance of there being a rush for the offices named; but as the bodies of the city government are increased numerically there will be greater opportunities for fun.

The law as to the payment of capitation tax has been changed so that payment may be made up to within four days of the election, the payment of the current year's capitation tax only being required.

A police and fire commission of four citizens and the Mayor is provided for, this commission to have exclusive control of the two departments named, including appointments and removals; bonds will be required from policemen and firemen. The Mayor's duties are extended and his pay increased. There are a number of small changes and provisions, of little consequence. Council and the Board of Aldermen elect their own presiding officers. They also elect the Workhouse Keeper and City Physician.

The above are given as the changes by a gentleman who has seen the document.

The Old Man Was Healthy.

One of our young men whose business confines him closely indoors told us last week that he was going to Fayette to spend a few weeks and recreate. But seeing him on the street a day or two afterward, we asked why this brief visit? "Well, I did not get to see Herr; she has the rheumatism, and the old man hasn't, that's all!" He drew a deep sigh, stuck his hands in his pockets, looked as though he wished the old man had had the "rheumatism," and walked on.—Winchester Sun.

Winter Goods Cheap.

In the nick of time comes the advertisement of Messrs. A. B. Chinn & Co. to sell a large stock of blankets, coats and other winter wear at cost. One dollar now, if spent here, is worth as much as a dollar and a half spent before the closing sale begins.

The Doctors in Burma have been defeated with heavy losses by the British.

TO THE READERS AND FRIENDS OF THE BLADE.

A number of persons have kindly asked me to send them my paper and I have kept a list of their names, but until the time of its first issue I have solicited no subscribers. The circulation of the BLADE will therefore be begun by being sent to the persons who may receive it, hoping, of course, that they will pay me for it, but claiming no advantage of the newspaper law which I deem an unjust one, which requires one to pay for a paper that he may take from an office, and which may have been sent to him without his order. To such persons as conclude to take the BLADE, I would say that I will thank them to remit to me or hand me the one dollar subscription money at their earliest convenience. To those who feel doubtful about the propriety of taking the paper I would say that I will take it as a kindness if they will allow it to come to them until they determine about it, and then inform me accordingly. The BLADE will be sent with this understanding to the almost entire list who subscribed to the Lexington Daily Observer through my solicitation, and to another list that I have made out from others generally resident in the country and adjoining towns of the Bluegrass Region, and to various remote parts of the United States. It is my purpose in this way regularly to extend the circulation of the BLADE each week, and I will be glad if my personal friends, or the friends of the BLADE, will suggest to me orally or by note, the names of persons to whom I might send it on these conditions with some probability of gaining their patronage. I think the public may safely regard the BLADE as being upon a permanent foundation, and I will take no pains to increase its circulation.

W. R. BRADFELD.

LUXURIES.

Raisins, Nuts, Figs, Prunes, Chocolate Creams and bonbons, Crystallized Fruits, Florida Oranges, Mince Meat and Plum Pudding

CAKES

OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.

Florida and California Oranges.

Concord and Malaga Grapes. Every Variety of Fine Fresh

French Candies.

FRESH

OYSTERS

DAILY BY EXPRESS.

NEW YORK COYSTS, THE FINEST OYSTERS THAT GROW. A SPECIALTY.

Cranberries Fresh and Fine, Knick-knacks of every description. Special orders to parties and festivals. Call and get a hot glass of Soda.

W. T. JEWELL & CO.

1886.

J. B. MORTON & CO

HAVE

Merchants' Account Books,

Diaries, Almanacs,

Bill Paper and Cards.

J. B. M. & Co. take subscriptions to American and Foreign Periodicals, receive new publications every week, import books to order from London, and have Printing, Binding and Engraving done at reasonable rates. Jan 23tf

GO TO

J. H. WEIL & SON,

44 East Main St.,

FOR FURNITURE

Of the latest designed and in all the popular Woods.

J. H. WEIL & SON,

Furners' Direct

THE OPTICIAN,

OTIS W. SNYDER,

8 NORTH UPPER ST.

ASHLAND HOUSE,

W. H. BOSWELL,

SUCCESSOR TO

E. H. BOSWELL & SON, PROP'S.

Short Street, Near the Postoffice, Lexington, Ky.

T. B. WOOD,

Druggist,

47 E. MAIN ST.

Drugs, Medicines, Perfumery, Toilet Articles, Prescriptions, ect., ect.

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A NEW DEPARTURE IN PUBLIC SALES

Quality, not Quantity, the Motto.

W. R. BRADFELD'S

Lexington Combination Sale Of

186

Select Horses.

LEXINGTON, KY.

February 23, 24, 25, 1886,

Consisting of highly-bred trotting stallions, colts, fillies and brood mares, the get of the most noted sires in the world. The consignments are from the prominent breeders of the country, and are choice selections from their respective studs. I have determined to give more attention to the quality and high breeding of the stock in my sales, and my relations with the various prominent breeders of the country, will enable me to do so successfully. I am confident no public sale has contained a finer lot of horses than is now offered. They represent the great sires, George Wilkes, Dan Patch, Mambrino Patchen, Almont, Strathmore, Daniel Lambert, American Clay, Jay Gould, Belmont, Blackwood, Clark Chief, Jay Bird, Lumps, Yo ng Jim, Robert, Governor Sprague, Ashland Chief, Onward, Fred Wilkes, Weidewood, Alyson, Struwick, Mambrino Blue-st, Princeps, Fairfield, Mambrino Hambleton and other noted sires. Sale positive, day or night without reservation or withdrawal. Catalogues now ready. Apply to

W. R. BRADFELD.

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DE LONG & CO.,

LEXINGTON, KY.

Dealers in farm and garden seed, hay, straw, farm implements, carriages, b